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# The University of Richmond Orchestra

Department of Music, University of Richmond

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THE UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND  
ORCHESTRA

Fred Cohen, conductor



DECEMBER 1, 1999, 7:30 P.M.  
CEDARFIELD

## PROGRAM NOTES

Other than *The Planets*, Holst's *St. Paul's Suite* for String Orchestra is probably his best known work. Holst decided to write this work following a disappointing survey of repertoire appropriate for his students at the James Allen's Girls School. He composed the piece in 1912-13 for the upper school orchestra, and composed a companion piece—the *Brook Green Suite*—twenty years later for the middle school.

Originally composed for organ and orchestra, the harp version of Handel's Op. 6 is realized by Carlos Salzedo.

Dana Wallace is double major in Biology and Economics. At the age of ten, she began playing harp with the Richmond Public Schools Harp Ensemble. For five years she studied with Lynne Abbey-Lee, now principal harpist for the Colorado Symphony Orchestra, and currently studies with Mary Jane D'Arville.

Tchaikovsky composed his Fourth Symphony between May, 1877, and January, 1878. During the composition of this piece, Tchaikovsky first rejected and then accepted a proposal of marriage from Antonina Milyukova, whom he did not remember when she approached him in June of that year. A condition of his acceptance of Antonina's proposal was an understanding that there could be no physical relationship between them. Tchaikovsky married her on July 18, 1877, and returned to his work on the Fourth Symphony in August during a vacation in Caucasus. Against his wishes, he was forced to return to Moscow in September to begin his

teaching responsibilities at the Conservatory, and within days attempted suicide. On October 7 he arrived in St. Petersburg in a state of complete nervous collapse. A specialist ordered that Tchaikovsky never visit his wife again, and he never did.

Tchaikovsky recovered from his personal strife in the months immediately following with travels to Paris and Clarens in Switzerland, as well as forays into Italy. Nicolai Rubenstein, the head of the Conservatory, allowed Tchaikovsky to receive a full stipend while on leave, alleviating his financial worries. In January, 1878, Tchaikovsky completed the Symphony, and in February, he completed his operatic masterpiece, *Eugene Onegin*.

As you might imagine, the Symphony contains unmistakable marks of these torrid events in Tchaikovsky's life. The opening theme symbolizes fate—it appears several times in the first movement and returns in the Finale, but its primary function is to brutally intrude upon the softer, more feminine theme of the first movement. The middle two movements are reminiscent of ballet—for which Tchaikovsky received considerable censure during his lifetime. To my ears, they act more like intermezzos, and are necessary to sooth the emotional turmoil created in the first movement. The well-known Finale does not match the first movement in length or depth of expression, but is exuberant in its use of a Russian folktune as the second theme, in the nationalist style founded by Glinka.

(Notes by Fred Cohen)

## PROGRAM

*St. Paul's Suite* for String Orchestra      Gustav Holst  
I. Jig      (1784-1934)  
IV. The Dargason

Concerto in B-flat Major,      George Frederic Handel  
op. 4 no. 6      (1685-1759)  
I. Andante Allegro      arr. for Harp and Orchestra  
II. Larghetto

Dana Wallace *harp*  
winner, 1999 UR Student Concerto Competition

## INTERMISSION

Symphony      Pyotr Ilich Tchaikovsky  
no. 4 in F minor, op. 36      (1840-1893)  
I. Andante sostenuto-Moderato con anima  
II. Andantino in modo di canzona  
III. Allegro  
IV. Allegro con fuoco

## UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND ORCHESTRA

### FIRST VIOLIN ♦

Jane Hoffman, co-principal  
Ilan McNamara, co-principal  
Jessica Gilmore  
Jack Gauntlett  
Julie Hayes  
Kim Forquer  
Frances Lin  
Mason Morris  
Chung-In Park

### SECOND VIOLIN

Aaron Aunins, principal  
Rebecca Pinkham  
Emily D'Antonio  
Emily Erb  
Kelly Hart  
Iris Redmond  
Alanna Rice  
Judy Shim  
Mary Yoon

### VIOLA

Jenny Bernard, principal  
Kathrine Dixon  
Tom Calder  
Danielle Haskins  
Allyson Ladley  
Meghan McDonald  
Jennifer Smith  
Dick Stone

### CELLO

James Tripp, principal  
Jenny Dertinger  
Adam Kerr  
Lisa Marshall  
Tom Rivotuso  
Kevin Stults

### BASS

Joe LaPaglia

### FLUTE

Tara Arness  
Eva Chang  
Jamie Beth Paulson  
Marsha Kronman

### OBOE

Jen Magee  
Meghan Pesch

### CLARINET

Steve Ahearn  
Elaine Buccheimer  
Betsy Plunket  
Simone Renz

### BASSOON

Stephanie Allen  
Catherine Massie

### FRENCH HORN

Mary Beth Hall  
Ruth Auman  
Robert Gabler  
Margaret Aunins

### TRUMPET

Julie Cillo  
Sean Linfors

### TROMBONE/TUBA

Robert Wagenknecht  
William W. Franklin  
David Davis  
Alan Hall

### PERCUSSION

John Hubbard  
Ray del Savio  
Dreema Lovitt